



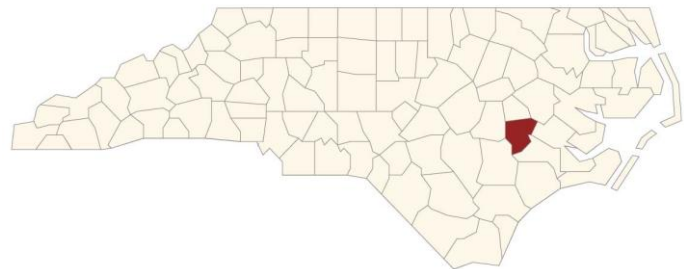
On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Lenoir County

Lenoir County received more than \$127 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Lenoir County total.



**Pell Grants Awards:**  
**2,169**



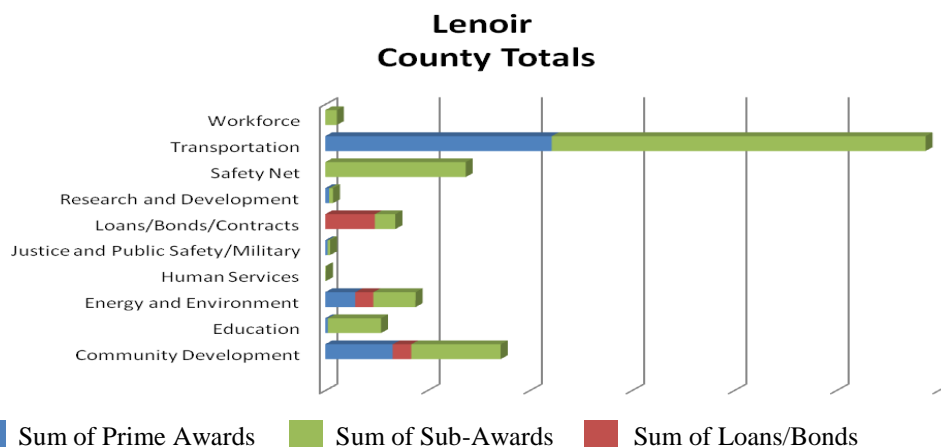
**Small Business Jobs:**  
**67**



**Appliances rebated:**  
**131**



**Family homes financed:**  
**16**



**Lenoir County,**  
pop 59,648 at a glance:

**Recovery Act Totals:**  
 Grants: \$ 110,841,378.32  
 Loans: \$ 12,088,467  
 Bonds: \$ 4,779,728

**Total: \$127,709,573.32**



## Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

**Lenoir County schools** received \$15 million in education funding, including \$2 million in Special Education funds, \$2 million in Title I funds, \$5.5 million in SFSF funds, and \$1.5 million in Race to the Top funding.

Pell Grants are an educational Assistance Program that provides grants to eligible students to receive post-secondary or vocational training. Because Pell Grants are not student loans, they allow students to receive financial assistance to further education and training without incurring additional debt. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased the eligibility and the maximum amount of Pell Grants in 2009 and 2010 as a way to encourage educational opportunities, and to provide a way for eligible applicants to gain new job skills.

**In Lenoir County**, Lenoir Community College had 2,169 students funded by Pell Grants; these grants were worth more than \$3 million.



## Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

**In Lenoir County**, 16 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$2 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North

Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

**Lenoir County** retailers sold 131 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



## Small Business Assistance

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

**In Lenoir County** 4 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth almost \$4 million. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 32 jobs. Additionally, the USDA Business and Industry Program provided a loan to a small business, worth \$4 million dollars that saved or created 35 jobs.



## Farm Assistance

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

**In Lenoir County**, \$325,761 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



## CARS Program

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

**In Lenoir County**, car dealers sold 123 cars worth \$2.7 million through the ARRA CARS program.



## Justice and Public Safety Programs

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

**In Lenoir County**, the City of Kinston and the Town of La Grange received JAG program grants worth more than \$200,000.

The COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) awards grants to law enforcement agencies to hire and train community policing professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test innovative policing strategies. COPS funding also provides training and technical assistance to community members and local government leaders and all levels of law. In order to help leverage the efficiency of these programs Governor Perdue set aside additional funding to help pay for uniforms and equipment for local governments who have new COPS funded positions.

**In Lenoir County**, the City of Kinston had 2 officers funded through COPS Grants. These grants were worth \$250,000. In addition, the City of Kinston received a grant of \$8,000 from the Governor's Crime Commission to help outfit and equip these new officers.



## Environment and Natural Resources Programs

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

**In Lenoir County**, the USDA made a Rural Utilities Service grant to the North Lenoir Water Corp for 3.1 million to upgrade water and sewer services.



## Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70

million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

**In Lenoir County**, the City of Kinston received \$600,000 to install motion lighting sensors in five buildings and upgrade lighting and heating and air conditioning, and install LED streetlights. The Town of LaGrange, and the Lenox Corporation received \$300,000 to upgrade existing lighting with more efficient systems.



## Military Programs

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act included approximately \$7.4 billion in defense-related appropriations. This includes funding for all service areas and the Army Corps of Engineers. Recovery Act funding addressed some of the unique economic pressures faced by American service members because of their voluntary commitment to serve our nation. The Recovery Act included assistance to service members, upgrades aimed to improve the quality of life for troops and their families, funded three new facilities, and two new VA hospitals in North Carolina, addressing critical needs across the state. In addition to providing much needed facility improvements, this bill also provides more funding for our energy research programs, so that Department of Defense (DOD) can continue to lead the way in the national effort to achieve greater energy independence. North Carolina had 103 military projects funded for a total of \$166 million.

**In Lenoir County**, the Veterans Health Administration commissioned the construction of a new 100-bed Veterans' nursing home. This project is worth more than \$10 million.



## Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

**Lenoir County** residents received more than \$18.5 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$5 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$3.5 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

**Lenoir** County received more than \$500,000 for Head Start Programs.



# Lenoir County Feature Story

## Lenoir County Invests in Public Safety with Recovery Funds

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased funding to the federal Department of Agriculture's Community Facilities Program. The Community Programs provide loans, grants, and loan guarantees for a variety of community selected high-impact projects, such as water and environmental projects, as well as community facilities projects. Community facilities projects develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas and may include hospitals, fire protection, safety, as well as many other community-based initiatives.



Sandy Bottom Fire & Rescue was founded in March of 1977. The department was started with about 15-20 members from the Sandy Bottom Community to provide fire protection for the citizens of the community. The Fire Department has grown to approximately 45 members providing fire, rescue, and EMS/first responder services to Lenoir County. Sandy Bottom Fire and Rescue answers 250-300 calls per year with most of them being first responder calls.

Despite more than doubling in size, the Fire Department was housed in their original facilities for more than 30 years. After fundraising and saving for more than 5 years, the department saw its opportunity in the historic infrastructure programs included in the Recovery Act. In May 2010, the US Department of Agriculture awarded Sandy Bottom Fire & Rescue more than \$1.3 million in Recovery funds to build a new fire station. The grant was structured as a \$200,000 grant and a \$1.1 million low-interest loan.



The contract was awarded in mid-2010 and construction began in earnest by early 2011, and is more than 50% completed. The current facilities are unable to house all of Sandy Bottom's fire and rescue vehicles, with some of the vehicles parked nearby or under temporary shelters. The new 15,000 square foot building will more than triple the existing space, provide vehicle bays for all fire and rescue vehicles and equipment, and provide for meeting space for the department. The new building will be located at the intersection of N.C. 55 West and Croom-Bland Road.

Timmy Mooring, Deputy Chief of Sandy Bottom said of the new construction: "This station should have been built five or ten years ago, but we weren't in a financial position to do it,"

## Appendix, Lenoir County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role <sup>i</sup>	Prime Amount <sup>ii</sup>	Unique Sub Awards <sup>iii</sup>	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) <sup>iv</sup>
	Bonds		P			\$0.00	
		Carteret, County Of	P			\$4,000,000.00	
		Kinston	P			\$779,728.00	
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$523,000.00		
	Federal Pell Grant Program	Lenoir Community College	P				
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$2,126,117.00	
Administration for Children and Families	ARRA - Child Care and Development Block Grant	Lenoir, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$147,473.05	\$0.00	
	ARRA - Head Start	Greene Lamp Inc	P	\$408,000.00		\$0.00	\$408,000.00
				\$138,164.00		\$0.00	\$138,164.00
Department of Agriculture	Business and Industry Loans	Various	L		\$4,000,000.00		
	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$5,065,988.72		
Department of Energy	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)	Kinston, City Of	S	\$0.00	\$588,126.00	\$0.00	
		La Grange, Town Of	S	\$0.00	\$155,475.00	\$0.00	
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Public Housing Capital Fund Formula (Recovery Act Funded)	Kinston Housing Authority	P	\$1,735,176.00		\$0.00	\$1,735,176.00
	Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program Special Allocations (Recovery Act Funded)	St John Village Inc	P	\$65,537.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Department of Justice	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	Kinston, City Of	P	\$252,588.00		\$0.00	\$252,588.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant	Kinston, City Of	P	\$221,661.00		\$0.00	\$221,661.00

	(JAG) Program / Grants To Units Of Local Government						
		La Grange, Town Of	P	\$17,297.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program/ Grants to States and Territories	Kinston, City Of	S	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	
<b>Department of Labor</b>	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$18,796,310.83		
<b>Federal Highway Administration</b>	Highway Planning and Construction	Barnhill Contracting Company	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
		Norfolk Southern Railway	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$47,899.17
		North Carolina Department Of Transportation	P	\$42,926,208.00		\$0.00	\$42,926,208.00
				\$669,494.00		\$0.00	\$669,494.00
				\$547,746.00		\$0.00	\$547,746.00
				\$192,500.00		\$0.00	\$192,500.00
		Palmetto Infrastructure, Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$398,611.15
		Plt Construction Co., Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$27,351,489.88
		Richard Catlin And Associates, Inc	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$8,737.15
		Sanford Contractors, Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$598,420.37
		Schnabel South, LLC	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$4,534.86
		SEPI Engineering & Construction, Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$8,504.50
<b>Federal Transit Administration</b>	Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas	Lenoir, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$369,822.00	\$0.00	
<b>Food and Nutrition Service</b>	Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S	\$0.00	\$36,577.00	\$0.00	
<b>Health Resources and Services Administration</b>	ARRA - Grants to Health Center Programs	Kinston Community Health Center, Incorporated	P	\$242,761.00		\$0.00	\$242,761.00
				\$532,415.00		\$0.00	\$532,415.00
<b>Idaho Operations Office</b>	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P		\$22,210.00	\$0.00	
<b>National Energy Technology Laboratory Office of</b>	State Energy Program	Lenox Corporation	S	\$0.00	\$148,238.00	\$0.00	
	Education	Lenoir County	S	\$0.00	\$53,573.00	\$0.00	



Elementary and Secondary Education	Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Board Of Education Inc					
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Childrens Village Academy, The	S		\$0.00	\$82,692.00	\$0.00
		Kinston Charter Academy	S		\$0.00	\$187,616.00	\$0.00
		Lenoir Community College	S		\$0.00	\$761,988.08	\$0.00
		Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S		\$0.00	\$4,829,113.00	\$0.00
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Kinston Charter Academy	S		\$0.00	\$75,662.00	\$0.00
		Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S		\$0.00	\$1,416,295.00	\$0.00
		Childrens Village Academy, The	S		\$0.00	\$54,883.00	\$0.00
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Kinston Charter Academy	S		\$0.00	\$113,636.00	\$0.00
		Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S		\$0.00	\$2,128,433.00	\$0.00
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S		\$0.00	\$84,800.00	\$0.00
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Childrens Village Academy, The	S		\$0.00	\$38,678.64	\$0.00
		Kinston Charter Academy	S		\$0.00	\$101,663.02	\$0.00
		Lenoir County Board Of Education Inc	S		\$0.00	\$2,137,827.98	\$0.00
	Community Facilities Loans and Grants	Atlantic Surveying	PV		\$0.00		\$0.00
Rural Housing Service		Daniels & Daniels	PV		\$0.00		\$0.00
		E1	PV		\$0.00		\$0.00
					\$0.00		\$0.00
		Kinston, City Of	P		\$0.00	\$1,275,000.00	\$1,275,000.00
					\$225,000.00	\$0.00	\$225,000.00
					\$187,500.00	\$0.00	\$187,500.00
					\$0.00	\$1,062,500.00	\$1,062,500.00
		Meridian Engineering	PV		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00

		Pink Hill, Town Of	P	\$0.00	\$128,050.00	\$128,050.00
				\$68,950.00	\$0.00	\$68,950.00
		Sandy Bottom Volunteer Fire & Rescue Inc	P	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
				\$0.00	\$1,140,000.00	\$1,140,000.00
		White & Allen, Pa	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,166.00
<b>Rural Utilities Service</b>	Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities - ARRA	North Lenoir Water Corp	P	\$0.00	\$3,160,000.00	\$3,160,000.00
				\$2,600,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$2,600,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,600,000.00
		Pink Hill, Town Of	P	\$688,000.00	\$0.00	\$688,000.00
				\$0.00	\$372,000.00	\$372,000.00
<b>Small Business Administration</b>	Loans	K & K Farms, Inc.	L		\$7,500.00	
		Pham Poultry Farm	L		\$10,000.00	
		Thomas Management Associates,	L		\$807,300.00	
		Thoracic And Vascular Associat	L		\$2,000,000.00	
<b>SSA</b>	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P	\$3,648,500.00		
<b>Under Secretary for Health / Veterans Health Administration VA</b>	Grants to States for Construction of State Home Facilities	Veterans Affairs, North Carolina Division Of	P	\$10,745,800.00	\$0.00	\$10,745,800.00
<b>Grand Total</b>				\$65,264,797.00	\$45,576,581.32	\$16,868,195.00
					\$98,880,194.60	

<sup>i</sup> Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

<sup>ii</sup> Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to [www.federalreporting.gov](http://www.federalreporting.gov)

<sup>iii</sup> Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

<sup>iv</sup> Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.